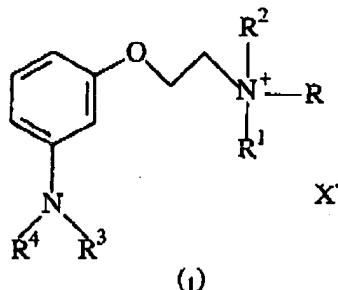


Appl. No. 10/052,362  
 Atty. Docket No. CP-1218  
 Amdt. Dated January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
 Reply to Office Action of October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003

This invention provides novel couplers of the formula (1):



wherein X is selected from halogen and  $R^5SO_4$  where the halogen is preferably Cl, Br or I; R,  $R^1$ , and  $R^2$  are each individually selected from  $C_1$  to  $C_{22}$  alkyl and  $C_1$  to  $C_{22}$  mono or dihydroxyalkyl, or two of R,  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a  $C_3$  to  $C_6$ , preferably  $C_4$  to  $C_6$ , saturated or unsaturated ring optionally containing in the ring one or more additional hetero atoms selected from O, S and N atoms;  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are each individually selected from  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  hydroxyalkyl,  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  alkoxy,  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  aminoalkyl or  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  together form a  $C_2$  to  $C_5$  alkylene group; and  $R^5$  is selected from  $C_1$  to  $C_{22}$  alkyl and  $C_1$  to  $C_{22}$  mono or dihydroxyalkyl. Preferably X is Cl, Br, I and  $R^5SO_4$  where  $R^5$  is  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl, more preferably methyl; and preferably R,  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are each individually  $C_1$  to  $C_3$  alkyl, and more preferably methyl.

Please replace the paragraph beginning page 4, line 10 with the following paragraph:

The coupler compounds of this invention are those of formula (1)

wherein X is selected from halogen and  $R^5SO_4$  where the halogen is preferably Cl, Br or I; R,  $R^1$ , and  $R^2$  are each individually selected from  $C_1$  to  $C_{22}$  alkyl and  $C_1$  to  $C_{22}$  mono or dihydroxyalkyl, or two of R,  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a  $C_3$  to  $C_6$ , preferably  $C_4$  to  $C_6$ , saturated or unsaturated ring optionally containing in the ring one or more additional hetero atoms selected from O, S and N atoms;  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are each individually selected from  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_1$  to  $C_6$